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DEATH.

On the 30th March, 1877, at "Farles," Hong-
kong, George ASHWELL KEEBONE, aged 64
years, died.

At the Real, the maximum temperature dur-
ing the past week, as recorded in Saturday's
"Gazette," was 66°, the minimum 45°; at the
Metropole's Master's Office, Finsbury, the max-
imum was 70° and the minimum 52.5. 1.20

It is notified in Saturday's "Gazette" that the
Philippines Islands being now admitted into the
General Union, all paid correspondence received
from Manila in the name will be delivered free
of postage.

Of the gravity of the dooms entertained by
His Excellency TING JIN-chao, the Fatty
of Foochow, to put down corruption and
abuses in the public service of his country
little doubt can be entertained. He has given

such numerous and unmistakable proofs of

his hatred of tyranny and "squeezing,"

that it would be most unfair to suspect him

of any ulterior motive in his crusade against
official abuses. He is evidently no popu-
larity hunter, and, if all accounts be true, he
is equally free from the taint of miserliness,

never having amassed money. But conced-

ing TING's purity of motive, his concre-

and magnanimity, it must be admitted that
he is still only a virtuous Abiatis, and that
his ideas of justice and the punishment to
be awarded to offenders are somewhat bar-
barous. Thus, in Formosa, we are told that
he caused a number of officers, who had
failed to keep up discipline among their
men, to be put in cages in addition to being
deprived of their mandarin batons. Now the
punishment may have a wholesome effect on
the Chinese mind, but in Europe such a de-
gradation would not be thought of. Another
is recorded which smacks more strongly
of Oriental rule. The commander of a
fort, who had been in the habit of keeping
back the pay of the troops and shamefully
neglecting the sick, was summarily executed
in Formosa. The man was a British subject
and, in 1860, he had been captured by the
Taipings, who had given him a commission
as a captain in their army. He was held
in confinement during his late visit that
he had quite well come up to the city, and accord-
ingly selected a site for the British Settlement
close to the walls.

The "Haworth-Master" publishes the following:
The Spanish steamer "Zamboanga" reports the dis-
covery of a shoal on her voyage from Shangai to
this port. On the 26th March at 7.30 p.m. Capt.
Vardala bore West distance 8 miles, from which
position he took his Deposition. Latitude 15° 45'
longitude 120° 15' E. At 9.30 a.m. following morning
in latitude 15° 45' S. 02° 30' E. 03° 30' S. 04° 15' E.
The ship was a chronometer 110 fathoms long, 38
feet wide, 18 feet deep. She was a screw vessel
with a single propeller, and her engine power
was 1,000 horse-power. The crew consisted of
15 men, 10 Chinese, 2 English, 1 American, 1
Frenchman, 1 German, 1 Italian, 1 Portuguese,
1 Spaniard, 1 American, 1 English, 1 Frenchman,
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1 American, 1 English,

MUSICAL AND DRAMATIC NOTES.

An international music congress is to be held in Lyons in May.

"Le Honneur" commenced his twenty-second season on the 1st of March.

M. Léon Delibes has written for the Paris Lyrique an opera called "Jean de Nivelle," words by Gounod.

The death is announced at New York of Mr. Edward Dyas, the father of Miss Dyas the actress, at present the leading lady at Wallack's. The Athenaeum think Mr. Irving will soon be of more artistic service in a part like Macbeth than he has ever been in more heroic roles.

Mr. W. S. Gilbert is going to New York shortly, to superintend the production of a new comedy which he has written for Mr. Sothern.

It is said that Mrs. F. Marshal is studying a new opera, "Birn," is to run until Easter. It has cost \$25,000.

A comedy by Mr. Tom Taylor entitled "Babes and Beaus" is announced for production at the Strand Theatre, London, with Mr. John S. Clarke in the principal character.

The next piece at the Olympic Theatre, London, will be Charles Read's own version of "Fool Play," which Mrs. Seymour, Mr. Neville, and Miss Bella Buteman will play leading parts.

The new "Fantastique" opera is to be given at the Opéra Lyrique, Paris, entitled "Le Timbre d'Argent." The music is by M. Saint-Saëns, and the book by MM. Jules Barbier and Michel Carré.

Truth says "Dan'l Drane" has proved a failure in America. On the other hand, Mr. Boucicault has made \$19,000 during his present tour. Mr. Bonciocat is now on her way back to England.

Mr. Albery is at Rameau, writing a new play. No matter how often he fails, Mr. Albery goes at it again, and he always finds managers willing to speculate on the chance of getting another "Two Roses."

The Envoy says that Miss Wallis has been spending the winter in Paris, where she has been making a great success, and is now advertising herself with the newest developments of dramatic art in the French capital.

M. Halmer, the director of the Opera, has offered to give a *bal de bienfaisance* in aid of the workpeople of Lyons, who are in great distress. He has asked for and obtained the patronage of the Duchesse de Mignets (Madame la Marquise de Mignets) for his project.

Mr. Dryden's play, "Miss Bateman," was produced Birmingham on the 14th February, and gave a reading of "Macbeth" in the Town Hall in aid of a local literary institute. Upwards of 3,000 persons attended, and the artists were most cordially received.

By the will of the late Mr. Edouard Schub, who died in September last, the Royal Society of Musicians of Great Britain receive a legacy of £1,000. Mr. Stirling, Joseph Stirling, has been honoured, and was recently considered and treated as an Englishman.

M. Esure, the celebrated baritone, who is now on a tour in his native country, gave a performance at Lyons last week, and handed over the total receipts, amounting to nearly £400, to the committee for the relief of the unemployed workmen in that town.

M. the Hon. Horner, the author of "La File de l'Amour," who produced "Soubrette" at the Théâtre Français, Paris, with immense success in 1875, and the title rôle in which was one of the most striking creations of Mlle. Sarah Bernhardt, is writing a new tragedy under the title of "Attila San Genouille."

Mr. George L. Gordon, one of the most promising young English dramatic authors, is busy engaged upon a new drama which he is fitting up for the stage. His name is a prominent part.

Ramond, it is thought, the piece is of exceptional merit, and will prove a sure card during the tour. Messrs. Eldred and Gordon contemplate.

Much interest excited at the Globe Theatre, Boston, when the *Scottish American Journal* by the personation of Hawthorne's creation of the "Little Peat" by Mabel Streeter, a little girl of nine years old, was produced.

Her acting is considered wonderful for one of such tender years, and befitting for her, if spaced, a high position on the American stage.

A Canadian lady makes the suggestion that upon the foot of every programme he printed a diagram of the theatre or hall in which a performance is taking place, and upon these diagrams every means of egress from the building should be distinctly marked. This, we think, would make the speculator much more familiarized with the exits and prove of incalculable value in case of panic or fire.

Mr. S. Hayes, honorary secretary and treasurer of the John Parry Farewell Fund, desires to tender Mr. Parry's warmest thanks to his numerous patrons and friends, and especially to Mr. Hollingshead and his company, as also to Mr. and Mrs. German Reed, for the kind manner in which they placed themselves at his service on the occasion of his "farewell" appearance.

At the performance of Auber's opera "Masaniello" at Ghent on the 11th February the cast in the second act was vociferously applauded. The "Chant des Grecs" and the "Brabantines" were subsequently sung by the members of the Choral Society, who were the leaders of the Germanists on that occasion. They were enthusiastically applauded, and had to repeat both pieces several times. No disturbance occurred in the streets.

A singular theatrical case has been brought before the magistrate at Lambeth Police-court. Mr. W. B. Fox, a well known comedian, charged Miss Clara Griffiths, an actress at the Elephant and Castle, with assaulting him.

He evidently was more interested in his satisfaction, and eventually Miss Griffiths, through her counsel, agreed to make an apology. The advocate for the prosecution after this consented to the withdrawal of the summons, the magistrate refusing to allow his costs.

The Dean and Chapter of Gloucester having granted the use of the Cathedral for the next annual meeting of the three choirs to be held at Gloucester, the three choirs have appointed committees to make the necessary arrangements. Mr. Lloyd, the successor to Dr. Wesley as organist of Gloucester Cathedral, has been appointed conductor as usual, with instructions to draw up a musical programme for approval. The period for holding the festival has not yet been fixed, but it will either at the end of August or beginning of September. One hundred steward have already consented to act.

The Paris correspondent of the *Daily Telegraph* writes:—"I am able to give you the distribution of Massenet's new work, 'Le Roi de Lahore,' which is shortly to be produced at the Grand Opéra. It goes as follows:—Site, Malla; de Reske; Kaled, Milde; Fontenay, Allie; M. Salomon; Sonoda, M. Gasparini; Tambur, M. Boucicault; Zobelli, M. Gasparini. The music is by Massenet. The same takes place at Lyons in the Inde. The fourth act, representing the Massene of Matomac, commutes throughout a half-light unperceived. It is told in its splendour of scenes—scène, Massini is expected from St. Petersburg, and will make his reappearance at the Italian Opéra in Verdi's 'Aida.' There is some talk of giving 'La Dame aux Camélias' at the Opéra. The Duke of Cambridge, M. Boucicault, in the part of Marguerite, and M. Montrouzé in that of Armand."

The annual dinner of the Astronomical, Equatorial, and Musical Fund Association was held at Willie's Room on the 14th February, under the presidency of Mr. J. W. Ansor. The toast of the evening was, as usual, coupled with the name of Mr. Stirling, who, in responding, referred to the high services rendered to science by the late Lord Mayor, and to the recent address delivered by the Bishop of Manchester from the stage of two lectures. "All honour," Mr. Stirling said, "to that enlightened prelate for his courage in braving prejudice when he chose such a pulpit, and such a public!—so diabolical to us if there were no God to fear, and the pious to be spoken!—He claimed a high function for the theatre as a refining art, and as a whole-some and elevating amusement. It rests not entirely with us, but certainly between us and the public to make it so, to prove our calling one—to use the Bishop's own words—which are not mere words, but words of character, not to be ashamed." In this speech the stage should motor and smile as those inaugurated between the Bishop and the theatres of Manchester, "so far as the former in heart, but more important still, let the public help us to apply it. It lies ever more in their hands than in ours." In the theatres themselves, Mr. Stirling said, she thought she saw signs as though the audience were not so much moved by the counterfeits of a Bishop in the greater importance attached to conceitiveness in stage arrangements, and thoroughness in rehearsals, and in public more ready to appreciate the results of "all-round" excellence in performances.

THE EX-EMPEROR OF MEXICO.

Can any fate be more melancholy than that which has befallen for ever the life of one of the greatest emperors? That of Maximilian of Austria, and their prospect was but ever bright. The only daughter of a wise and honoured king, she had accompanied her father to see that incomparable assemblage of works of art with which Manchester astonished the world in 1857. A month or two later the Princess Charlotte became the bride, at the age of sixteen, of the Emperor of Mexico, Ferdinand Maximilian of Austria, and their prospect was that of a most happy, honourable, and useful life. Such it was for a good short year, when the tempest came, in the person of Louis Napoleon. Then followed the anxiety of the mock Monarchy of Mexico, and the wretchedness of the year 1867. A month or two later the Princess Charlotte became the bride, at the age of sixteen, of the Emperor of Mexico, Ferdinand Maximilian of Austria, and their prospect was that of a most happy, honourable, and useful life. 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